

Claims

- [c1] 1. An internal combustion engine comprising an engine body rotatably journaling a crankshaft therein for rotation about a rotational axis, said engine body having an opening at an end thereof spaced from said rotational axis of said crankshaft and adapted to be closed at least in part by a cylinder head detachably connected thereto, said cylinder head journaling at least one camshaft for operating at least one valve supported thereon, at least one flexible transmitter for driving said camshaft from said crankshaft, a tensioner arm journalled for pivotal movement by said engine body and having a portion thereof engaged with said flexible transmitter for maintaining a tension therein, said tensioner arm having a portion that extends outwardly beyond said engine body opening, and a removable portion of said engine affixed relative to said engine body and said cylinder head and retained on said engine body when said cylinder head is removed from said engine body and positioned to extend into a portion of said engine body opening from said engine body to engage said tensioner arm and limit its pivotal movement when said cylinder head is removed from said engine body.

- [c2] 2. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 1, wherein the removable portion of said engine comprises a cylinder head gasket that is disposed at least in part between sealing surfaces of the cylinder head and the engine body.
- [c3] 3. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 2, wherein the portion of the cylinder head gasket that extends into the engine body comprises an extension of a part of said cylinder head gasket that is disposed between and seals adjacent surfaces of said engine body and another engine component affixed thereto.
- [c4] 4. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 3, wherein the another engine component comprises the cylinder head.
- [c5] 5. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 2, further including a timing cover affixed to an end face of the engine body and enclosing at least in part the flexible transmitter.
- [c6] 6. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 5, wherein the portion of the cylinder head gasket that extends into the engine body comprises an extension of a part of said cylinder head gasket that is disposed between and seals adjacent surfaces of said engine body

and the cylinder head.

- [c7] 7. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 6, wherein the portion of the cylinder head gasket projection does not extend beyond the tensioner arm in the direction of the crankshaft axis.
- [c8] 8. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 6, wherein the portion of the cylinder head gasket projection extends beyond the tensioner arm in the direction of the crankshaft axis.
- [c9] 9. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 6 further including a second projection formed on the cylinder head gasket and extending on the other side of the tensioner arm from the first projection for limiting pivotal movement of the tensioner arm in the direction opposite that limited by said first projection.
- [c10] 10. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 9, wherein the portions of the cylinder head gasket projection do not extend beyond the tensioner arm in the direction of the crankshaft axis.
- [c11] 11. An internal combustion engine as set forth in claim 9, wherein the portions of the cylinder head gasket projections extends beyond the tensioner arm in the direction of the crankshaft axis.